

Childers' Statement on Jobs Bill, Debt Limit Increase

December 16, 2009

Washington, DC – Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) released the following statement regarding his votes against the House jobs bill, as well as legislation to increase the national debt ceiling:

“Our country is currently \$10.7 trillion in debt, faces a deficit of \$1.4 trillion, and is in the process of recovering from the most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression. For all of these reasons, I voted against the \$75 billion House jobs bill, as well as legislation to increase our national debt limit.

“Now is not the time to pass another big spending bill. So far, the Recovery Act has successfully created or saved upwards of 1.6 million jobs nationwide and has provided much-needed relief to 95 percent of Americans through one of the largest middle-class tax cuts in American history. The legislation is a two-year program, it’s working, and it still has more than a year to go. Let’s allow it to continue doing its job and reassess our economic situation down the road.

“I’m pleased that the House jobs bill includes language I introduced to modify school construction bonds created under the Recovery Act, making them more attractive to school districts and investors and providing greater opportunities for school modernization and repair. That being said, I could not vote for legislation with such a large price tag at this time.

“Likewise, I could not responsibly vote to increase our national debt limit under today’s economic conditions. Our economy is currently on its way to recovery, and we can’t afford to jeopardize its progress. However, while I could not vote for these pieces of legislation, I will continue working hard to create jobs and provide needed relief to hard-working families and businesses in North Mississippi.”

*A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit [w
www.childers.house.gov](http://www.childers.house.gov)*

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